Extension to Teleserial 'Chanakya'

3221. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tele–serial Chanakya has been granted an extension upto 47 episodes;

(b) whether the extension has been granted against the advice of the Doordarshan authorities and despite protest by various organisations; and

(c) the number of episodes originally suggested by the producer and those covered by the original sanction by the Doordarshan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Extension, if any, is granted by Doordarshan after taking into account the merit pofeach proposal e. g. the story line, thematic value popularity of the serial among the viewers etc.

(c) Twenty Six.

Profits Earned by ITDC Hotels

3222. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be please to state:

(a) whether on account of devaluation of rupee in July, 1991, the Indian Tourism industry and ITDC hotels have been benefited;

(b) if so, the loss/profit earned by ITDC during the last three years and particularly during the last six months of 1991; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to improve the profitability for 1992?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) There has been an upward trend in tourist arrivals coinciding with the devaluation of rupee in mid 1991 which has benefited Indian Tourism Industry, including ITDC in general.

(b) The requisite information is as under:–

Year	Profit (before tax) (Rs. in lakhs)
1988-89	967.83
1989-90	1139.73
1990-91	238.70
1991-92 (Prov.) (July 91 to Dec 91)	355.70

(c) The steps taken by ITDC to improve profitability of its hotels inter–alia include improvement, man–power training, marketing and reservation tie–ups, advertising etc.

Environmental Clearance to power Plants

3223. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON–CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting between the Power and Environment Ministriss chaired by the Prime Minister for environment clearance power project was held recently;

(b) if so, whether any broad policy has been sorted out; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) :(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Identification of Bangalore and Hyderabad for Expansion

3224. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be please to state:

(a) whether the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. has indemnified Bangalore and Hyderabad as a priority areas for purposes of expansion;

(b) if so, the time which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter:

(c) the details of the objective of these projects;

(d) the total amount spent thereon: and

(e) what extent, both Bangalore, Hyderabad centres will be coordinated?.

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NATH): (a) International Telecommunication facilities are already available at Bangalore and Hyderabad. Though there is no specific proposal for expansion of international Telecom facilities at these places at present, the expansion of the facilities is enerally demand based.

(b) to (e). Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

[*Translation*]

Representation of Journalists in Press Country of India

3225. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of Information & Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) The provisional for giveigh representation to journalists in the Press Council of India.

(b) the present set up of existing Council the criteria adopted fo given representation of journalists of Indian languages;

(c) whether any representionhas been made against the existing criteria;

(d) if so. the action taken in this regard thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINSTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The provision for giving representation to the journalists in the Press Council of India are contioned course(a) of Sub-Section (3) of Section 5 of Press Council Act, 1978 read with Rules 3 and 4 of the Press Council (procedure for Nomination of Members) Rules. 1978.

(b) In representation to a Chairman, the Press Council has 28 members A copy of the Notification containi containing details of 28 memberss endlosed as statement

(c) No representation against the criteria prescribed by the Act and the Rules made thereunder appears to have been received.

(d) Does not arise.